

**Board of Supervisors**

Gloria Molina, 1st District
 Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District
 Zev Yaroslavsky, 3rd District
 Don Knabe, 4th District
 Michael D. Antonovich, 5th District

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR OLDER ADULTS

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<http://www.css.lacounty.gov/laccoa.aspx>

**Executive Board**

Bernard Weintraub, President
 Cindy Skovgard, 1st Vice President
 Peter J. McGrath, 2nd Vice President
 Oleeta Igar, Secretary
 Barbara Sinclair, Fiscal Officer

Brenda Sapp-Pradia
 Executive Liaison

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

Monday, July 11, 2011
10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

3175 W. 6th Street, (Board) Collaboration Room
 Los Angeles, CA 90020

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
Mary Helen Cruz	Frank P. Calderon	Sol Fingold	Ralph Flores	Natalie Ambrose
Gloria Duran	Zelda Hutcherson	Marilyn Fried	Irene Griffith	Peter McGrath
William Givens	Lavada Theus	Oleeta Igar	Hedy L. Harrison	Marvin Schachter
Samuel Park	Aida M. Villalobos	Barbara Meltzer	Cindy Skovgard	Barbara Sinclair
David Siegrist		Bernard Weintraub		Liz Wong
		Elizabeth Wilson		

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED ABSENCE

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
	Matty Fegan-Perry	Krishan Bhalla	William Ha	Nneenah Frazier
	William Jackson	Peter Getzoff	Raymond Hall	Bianca Langley
	Theresa Rotter		Jung J. Kim	Vicente Zapata
			James Polk	

COMMISSIONERS UNEXCUSED ABSENCE

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5
	Eleanor Brown	Maurice Weiner	Aziz Amiri	Arlene Okamoto
	Lonnie McNamee			
	Nate Riddick			

CSS STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Lorenza C. Sanchez, Assistant Director, Brenda Sapp-Pradia, Program Manager, Larry Littleton, Human Services Administrator I; Vera Castillo, Legislative Analyst, and Guillermo Medina, Staff Assistant II.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Weintraub called the LACCOA Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

LACCOA advocates for the needs and well-being of older adults in Los Angeles County

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2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Zelda Hutcherson led the pledge of allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The commission approved the agenda as presented.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The commission approved the minutes as presented.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Bernard Weintraub stated that LACCOA's Executive Board met on Friday, July 8, 2011 with CSS staff to discuss several issues.

Commissioners Sol Fingold and Irene Griffith stated they did not get an invitation to attend the meeting.

President Weintraub acknowledged their concern and stated that in the essence of time between the last general meeting and the Executive Board meeting, the board felt that there was no need to invite committee chairs and they complied with the Brown Act by posting the notice of the meeting 73 hours prior to it.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Brenda Sapp-Pradia, Program Manager, stated that the California Department of Aging (CDA) audited CSS in April 2011. Ms. Sapp-Pradia stated that the last time the CDA was here four years ago, there were 87 findings. During the April 2011 audit, only 23 findings were found and most of these findings were not major. The audit includes reviewing all the Area Agency on Aging programs. Ms. Sapp-Pradia reported that CSS, Los Angeles City Department of Aging, Los Angeles County Departments of Mental Health, Health Services, and Public Social Services have formed a task force to discuss how to assist/support seniors or disabled adults affected by the closure of Adult Day Health Care Centers scheduled for September 2011. The task force will work to minimize the impact of the closure of the centers. Ms. Sapp-Pradia also reported that the Title V program received a 25% reduction in funding, effective July 1, 2011. Ms. Sapp-Pradia announced that Adult Protective Services (APS) will be going through a realignment. Ms. Sapp-Pradia also announced that the County will be releasing a resource guide that will list all the available resources for seniors.

Action--Commissioner Barbara Sinclair requested a copy of the CDA audit report.

Larry Littleton, Human Services Administrator I, stated that three commissioners have not taken the mandatory ethics training. A notification will be sent to those three when the make-up training session has been scheduled. Mr. Littleton stated that any commissioner who has not received the new county ID badge may go to the CSS Human Resources office to obtain their new badge. Mr. Littleton also stated that he is working on the LACCOA Annual Report and the draft will be shared with the commission for their review before it goes to print.

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Action--Cindy Skovgard, 1st Vice-President, requested that CSS staff look into possible repercussion options for those three commissioners if they do not attend the ethics training session.

Lorenza C. Sanchez, Assistant Director, further reported that the APS realignment involves re-distribution of money from the state to the counties and would shift the operational responsibility to the county. Ms. Sanchez also reported that notification has not been sent out to those who will be affected by the closure of the Adult Day Health Care Centers. She also noted that some centers may decide to close earlier than the September date.

Action Item – Ms. Sanchez agreed to report more on the re-alignment as she learns more from the state.

Action Item – Ms. Sanchez agreed to provide a directory of the Adult Day Health Care Centers by supervisorial district.

7. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Vera Castillo, Legislative Analyst, reported that the APS realignment will be funded by the State for one year. Ms. Castillo stated that the Los Angeles County Boundary Review Committee will be having two meetings at the Hall of Administration to discuss the redistricting of the county supervisorial districts. Ms. Castillo also announced that the Citizens Redistricting Commission will be having public hearings to discuss the new boundary maps for districts for the following: House of Representatives, Senate and Assembly districts.

Ms. Castillo reported that Governor Jerry Brown approved the state budget which included cuts in safety net services for seniors. The state budget also included taxing online retailers, imposing fees on homeowners to cover some firefighting activities that are covered by the State, and a \$12 increase in car registration fees. The budget includes the provision of extra revenue coming in to the State. Ms. Castillo stated that if the new revenue does not materialize by January 2012, the state will cut services such as In Home Supportive Services and education. Ms. Castillo reported that the funding for the Adult Day Health Care centers is scheduled to end in September 2011. Ms. Castillo is part of a coalition that will look at various options to assist those that will be affected by the closure of these centers. Ms. Castillo stated that about 23,000, out of the 34,000 participants of the Adult Day Health Care centers reside in Los Angeles County. She also reported that 166 of these centers are reportedly scheduled to be closed in Los Angeles County. Ms. Castillo reported that at the federal level, Congress is still working on the federal debt limit.

Commissioner Marvin Schachter stated that the White House has had several discussions to reduce Social Security and Medicare benefits to lower the federal debt limit. Commissioner Schachter urged all commissioners to contact their elected officials to voice their concerns. Commissioner Schachter also urged the commissioners to go to their communities and encourage them to voice their concerns to their officials.

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8. FINANCE REPORT

Financial Officer, Barbara Sinclair, reported that for the fiscal year of 2010-2011, LACCOA had a budget of \$47,000 and the commission spent \$33,697.86. Ms. Sinclair has requested the same budget amount of \$47,000 for fiscal year 2011-2012. Ms. Sinclair also changed the line items in the proposed budget, including the new line item for Special Events with the amount of \$16,000.

MOTION: Commissioner Lavada Theus introduced the motion to have the Older Americans Recognition Day Event funded by LACCOA. Commissioner Peter McGrath seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

9 COMMITTEE SELECTION

Peter McGrath, 2nd Vice-President, distributed the form for the commissioners to select the committee they would like to serve on. Commissioners need to make three selections, one their first choice of committee, second choice, and third choice. The Executive Board has the final approval and decisions will be based on the Commissioner's preference and the need to fill vacancies on certain under represented committees. CSS staff will contact those commissioners who did not attend the meeting by either email or mail for their selection.

10 DISTRICT LEAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT

President Weintraub requested the commissioners to separate into their respective districts and select their lead commissioners.

The following commissioners from each district were selected as lead commissioner:

- 1st District: Gloria Duran
- 2nd District: Lavada Theus
- 3rd District: Barbara Meltzer
- 4th District: Irene Griffith
- 5th District: Barbara Sinclair

During discussion, Commissioner Natalie Ambrose expressed her concern that information from different parts of the county is not being shared accordingly.

10 INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner David Siegrist announced that seniors can communicate with anyone in the world with the computer program Skype.

Commissioner Gloria Duran announced that she attended the Lotus Festival in Echo Park and that the park will be closed for two years for renovations. Commissioner Duran urged the commissioners to visit the communities that they serve.

Commissioner Aida Villalobos announced that Metro will be ending the 'Seniors on the Move' workshops and will introduce a new program for seniors. Commissioner Villalobos will keep the commission informed.

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Commissioner Marvin Schachter urged the commission to be more involved for the 2012 elections.

Commissioner Barbara Meltzer requested that the seating arrangement be reconsidered.

Commissioner Irene Griffith announced that Commissioner Liz Wong will be giving a presentation on Alzheimer's at the Health, Nutrition, Long-Term Care Committee scheduled immediately after the general meeting. All commissioners are invited to attend.

Commissioner Aida Villalobos announced that she received a thank you letter from Stevens Steak & Seafood House for having the annual meeting at their restaurant.

11 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Amos Fried stated that since LACCOA already knows about the Adult Day Health Care centers closing in September 2011, what is the commission going to do about the closures?

12 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 01, 2011.

13 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

APPROVED AND FILED: AUGUST 1, 2011